

Walsh, Dr Joseph

[Philadelphia, PA], 1926-1930

JOSEPH WALSH, M. D.
412 MEDICAL ARTS BUILDING
16TH AND WALNUT STREETS
PHILADELPHIA

June fourteenth,
1 9 2 6.

Numismatic Museum,
Near 156th Street,
New York City.

Dear Sirs,

In Mionnet's Description of Medals, Vol. 2,
under MYSIA, page 601, Medal #602, he describes one struck
by Pergamum and Ephesus in honor of Commodus with two men
on the reverse, one of which is probably the physician Galen,
who was born in Pergamum, with an altar between the two men.

Medal #603 is the same without the altar.

Visconti gives a picture of Medal #603 in his
Graec. Iconog., and this I have in my possession. I would
be glad to have a picture of #602. I would be much obliged,
therefore, if you would tell me how to go about procuring it.
What museum or museums have the original, or copies, of these
medals? Naturally, I would be glad to pay for the
photograph.

Very truly yours,

*I am interested in accounts of
writing a life of Galen.*

Joseph Walsh

June 16th, 1926

Dr. Joseph Walsh
412 Medical Arts Building
16th and Walnut Streets
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir:

Responding to yours of the 14th, the coin described by Mionnet is not described as depicting the physician Galen. This identification is probably due to Visconti to whom you refer, a very undependable "authority". The version without the altar is illustrated in the B. M. Catalogue, Mysia, Plate XXXIII, 5. On page 165, the figure holding the statue of Asklepios is identified as Pergamos, the hero for whom the city was named. And in this identification, von Fritze apparently concurs (Die Münzen von Pergamon, p.102, illustrated, Plate IX, No.17). In support of this disposition, it will be noticed that the hero of Ephesus holds the statue of Diana, thus strengthening the identification which sees Pergamos holding a figure of Asklepios, elsewhere identified on its coinage as the patron of the city.

I am unable to find any citation of Mionnet's No.602 in any of the Catalogues we have. Specimens of No.603 are apparently in the British Museum and in the Paris Bibliotheque Nationale, and possibly elsewhere.

In view of the questionable connection with Galen, you may no longer desire a reproduction; but, if such is not the case, I am sure you will receive a courteous response if you will write to Mr. George F. Hill of the British Museum, who will, I believe, also confirm what I have written above.

Very truly yours,

Secretary

Letter from D. Walsh
filed with pamphlet
on Galen

July 21st, 1926

Dr. Joseph Walsh
412 Medical Arts Building
16th & Walnut Streets
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Dr. Walsh:

Your letter of the 19th is very interesting and I regret that I am unable to add to my former letter, save that we have a copy of Buonarrotti's book here, and I should be very glad to welcome you at our Museum and discuss the matter with you. We have not the other titles, to which you refer.

If it should prove that you are unable to come to New York, I will arrange to have one of these books sent to you, but I should prefer not to do this because the volume is an old one and would hardly travel well.

I appreciate your writing me so fully, and I am very glad indeed to have your article on Galen's Discovery. I still feel that the evidence on which the likeness is based, is very slight.

Yours cordially,

Secretary

JOSEPH WALSH, M. D.
412 MEDICAL ARTS BUILDING
16TH AND WALNUT STREETS
PHILADELPHIA, PENNA.

HOURS: 9 TO 11 A. M.
MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY
AND BY APPOINTMENT

October thirteenth,
1 9 3 0.

Mr. Sydney P. Noe,
The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway between 155th and 156th Sts.,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Noe,

(July 1926)

About four years ago you showed me the courtesy of close inspection of the different coins of the reign of Marcus Aurelius. At the same time we had a discussion in relation to a medal struck during the reign of Commodus by the cities of Pergamum and Ephesus, on the reverse of which I believed we had a portrait of the physician Galen.

I am sending you, under separate cover, "Medical Life" for September 1930 showing this medal in connection with an article "Galen's Exhortation to the Study of the Arts", beginning on page 507, in which I think you might be interested, and which adds to the likelihood that my belief is correct.

With best wishes, I am,

Very truly yours,

Joseph Walsh

Oct. 16, 1930

Dr. Joseph Walsh

412 Medical Arts Bldg

Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Dr. Walsh:

Thank you very much indeed for the copy of "Medical Life" with the result of your investigation of the life of Galen. The illustration of the medal shows up very well indeed, and although your statement would hardly carry conviction in a court of justice, it does very justly state the basis for your position. The number is a very interesting one and I greatly appreciate your having sent it to me.

Very truly yours,

Secretary.

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~~Rodin, Augusta~~